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SOURCE Soviet newspapers as indicated.

SPRING NAVIGATION BEGINS ON USSR RIVERS

NAVIGATION OPENS ON LUGA AND OREDEZH RIVERS -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 80, 6 Apr 49

Navigation opened 5 April 1949 on the Luga and Oredezh rivers. Passenger service opened 6 April 1949 on the Khilok-Tolmachevo Line. The Leningrad Oblast Administration for the Development of Small Rivers for Transport plans to open new passenger lines this summer on Vuoksi Lake between Priozersk and Gory and between Priozersk and Kuznechnoye.

NEMAN RIVER LINE STARTS FREIGHT TRANSPORT -- Sovetskaya Litva, No 77, 2 Apr 49

The Neman River Steamship Line of the Ministry of the River Fleet announces that, beginning 1 April, it is taking orders for fast and slow freight for transport on the Neman and rivers of Kaliningrad Oblast.

NEVA PASSENGER SERVICE STARTS -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 78, 3 Apr 49

Regular passenger service has started on the Neva River between Petrokrepost' and Morozovka landings. The steamship Arzamas carried nearly 5,000 persons during the first 10 days.

DON OPEN -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 73, 28 Mar 49

The Don River was free of ice as of 28 March 1949.

NAVIGATION OPENS ON LIYELUPA RIVER -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 73, 28 Mar 49

Navigation has opened on the Liyelupa River from Yelgava to Salgale, Latvian SSR.

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SECRET**DNEPR SHIPPING ACTIVE -- Rechnoy Transport, No 25, 29 Mar 49**

Shipping activity on the Dnepr River out of Kiev has begun. The steamship Krupskaya opened passenger traffic. On 27 March the Diesel freighter Azerbaydzhan and the passenger steamers, Tbilisi and Pavlik Morozov, left for Kherson. The steamer Alma-Ata took 6 barges to Ineppropetrovsk. The steamer Akademik Krylov left Dnepropetrovsk for Kiev with barges of coal and salt.

The Don River is clear of ice as far as Bogayevskaya Quay. The steamer Yuriy Dolgorukiy arrived at Melikhovskaya from Rostov. Passenger traffic has opened on the Rostov-Azov-Kagal'nik line.

The Amur-Bar'ya River is free of ice as far as Khodzheyli Quay, but the river is ice-bound above this point.

LENINGRAD PORT PREPARES FOR NAVIGATION -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 69, 24 Mar 49

Final preparations are being completed for the opening of navigation on the Neva River. High-speed freight handling will be practiced this year. On the Leningrad-Moscow and Leningrad-Gor'kiy lines the Diesel freighters Timiryazev and Demidov, as well as others, will operate. A mechanized pier for unloading coal is being installed at the Kalashnikovskaya Quay; this change will double the number of coal cars that can be handled. Special mechanization will cut the time needed for bunkering tugboats from 3-4 hours to 40-45 minutes. The following tugboats, among others, will be used in operations this season: XVII MTuD, Chayka, and Krasnyy Bogatyr'.

OBLAST PREPARES FOR NAVIGATION -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 46, 25 Feb 49

Water-transport workers of Leningrad Oblast are getting ready for spring navigation on small rivers and have repaired many barges and power-driven vessels ahead of schedule. Several barges are being repaired at the Pasha Shipyard, and one 150-passenger cutter at the Tolmachevo landing. These vessels will be ready by spring.

The machine shop of the Tikhvin Office of Small Rivers is building a wood-burning gas-generator tugboat (gazokhod). In 1950, all power driven vessels of the Tikhvin Office will be equipped with gas generators and converted from liquid fuel to wood, the local solid fuel.

NEVA SHIPS PREPARE FOR NAVIGATION -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 77, 2 Apr 49

The Neva River is almost completely free of ice within the city limits of Leningrad, from the river mouth to the fifth GES. The steam tugs, Michurin, Nekrasov, and Barrikada, are preparing to make their first trips on 3 April.

The Leningrad Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service reports that the water on the Luga River and on the Tosna and Okhta is 100-200 centimeters above the winter level. Ice flow began 1 April on the Plyussa and Tigoda rivers and is expected on the Neva approximately 10 April.

ICE FLOW BEGINS ON MOSKVA -- Moskovskiy Bol'shevik, No 82, 8 Apr 49

The Moscow Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service reports that ice flow has begun in the upper part of the Moekva River. The river has already been cleared of ice in the vicinity of Mozhaysk. Ice still remains in the river at Zvenigorod, but there are large cracks. The Hydrometeorological Service predicts that the ice flow will begin on 9-10 April within the city limits. On 7 April the water level at Mozhaysk increased 9 centimeters.

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between 0800 and 1400, 8 centimeters in that time at Zvenigorod, and 7 at Pavshin. The Nara, Luzha, and Istra rivers have been cleared, but the Ruza is still filled with ice.

WATER CONTINUES TO RISE IN MOSCOW RIVERS -- Vechernaya Moskva, No 74, 29 Mar 49

Despite nightly freezing, flood waters of the rivers around Moscow continue to rise. At 0800 on 29 March 1949, the Yauza River was one meter above the summer level at the Bogatyrsky Bridge, and the little Khapilovka River was at the same level at the "Osvobozhdenny Trud" Factory. The water has begun to rise in the upper section of the Moskva River; at Zvenigorod a rise of 18 centimeters was recorded.

The Oka River has risen 2½ meters in its upper reaches. Ice movement is continuing on the ~~area~~ at Orel, and at Kaluga the ice has left the shores.

ICE BLASTED ON MOSKVA RIVER -- Vechernaya Moskva, No 72, 26 Mar 49

Blasting of the ice on the Moskva River has begun in order to prevent ice jams, when the ice thaws. There will be about 4,000 small blasts along about 5½ kilometers of the river in the Serebryany Bor area. The thickness of the ice this winter reached 80 centimeters in places, but the winter was comparatively warm and there was little snow.

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